

**Amount released under NOAPS to Andhra Pradesh**

1162. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount released towards the National Old Age Pension Scheme in Andhra Pradesh during the year 2001-2002. so far; and
- (b) the total amount to be released for the purpose during 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) As against an amount of Rs. 4360.76 lakhs, allocated to Andhra Pradesh for the year 2001-02, the 1st instalment of Rs. 2180.44 lakhs has already been released. Further releases would be contingent upon expenditure incurred by the State Government.

**Old age pension**

1163. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise number of persons who received old age pension, released by Union Government, during the last three years;
- (b) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Union Government to increase the pension of the old persons; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) A Statement is given (See below).

(b) and (c) No Sir. Enhancement of the rate of old age pension under the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) would require higher budgetary allocation.